

30 HOURS OF FREE CHILDCARE



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MONTHLY UPDATE

What is 30 Hours of Free Childcare?

The Childcare Act 2016 is delivering the Government's election manifesto commitment to giving families (where parents are working and eligible) an entitlement to 30 Hours of Free Childcare for their three and four year olds.

The national rollout of 30 Hours of Free Childcare commenced on the 1 September 2017.

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Message from the Department for Education:

[Early Education and Childcare Statutory Guidance for all local authorities](#)

In June 2018 the Department for Education published updated versions of its [operational guidance](#) for local authorities and providers' [statutory guidance](#) and [model agreement](#).

Foster Children:

The updated statutory guidance states from September 2018, 'some children in foster care will also be eligible for the 30 Hour extended entitlement, providing they meet the relevant criteria and two additional criteria: that this is consistent with the child's care plan and the foster parent(s) is taking up paid employment outside of their fostering role'.

The process for administrating and allocating/revalidating codes for children who are fostered will be through the local authority (Management Information) and **NOT** HMRC.

Continued....

KELSI Website

The 30 Hours of Free Childcare page on KELSI is designed to provide you with the information you need with ease. Each heading will take you to your desired page.

30 Hours of Free Childcare:

- Eligibility Criteria
- Childcare Choices
- Statutory Guidance
- Operational Guidance

Eligibility Checker:

Free Early Education

Guidance Documents:

- Open Objects Register
- Parent Declaration Form
- Disability Access Fund
- Transition and 30 Hours
- Further Information

Monthly Updates:

- 30 Hours of Free Childcare News

Promotional Materials:

- Eligibility Code Reminder
 - Poster
 - Postcard
 - Leaflets
 - Images
 - Banners

Foster children continued....

Foster parents need to speak to their social worker to confirm if they meet the eligibility criteria and will need to complete an application form.

Children who are fostered can already access their Universal 15 Hours from the term following their third birthday.

Applying/Re-confirmation of 30 Hours of Free Childcare Codes for the autumn term 2018:

The deadline to apply for or renew 30 Hour Codes is the **31 August 2018**. Parents/carers are encouraged to apply/revalidate their 30 Hours code in good time.

Please encourage parents/carers who are having difficulties completing their application or reconfirmation online to contact the helpline on **0300 123 4097**, who will check eligibility and provide them with a temporary code if they qualify for 30 Hours.

30 Hour audit of codes – February 2018

The statutory guidance specifies that local authorities should complete an audit check on eligibility codes at six fixed points in the year as set out in the table of LA audit dates:

23 October 2017	27 October 2017	(Completed)
24 December 2017	6 January 2018	(Completed)
11 February 2018	18 February 2018	(Completed)
24 March 2018	31 1 March 2018	(Completed)
27 May 2018	2 June 2018	(Completed)
24 August 2018	1 September 2018	

The 30 Hours of Free Childcare updates are uploaded onto KELSI.

<http://www.kelsi.org.uk/30-hours-free-childcare>

The 30 Hour Update:

This is the final 30 Hour update. We hope you have found the information useful?

From September 2018 any news and information relating to the 30 Hours of Free Childcare will be included in the Early Years and Childcare Bulletin.



If parents encounter any problems with the application process or accessing the childcare account, they should direct their queries to the HMRC Childcare Service Customer Interaction Centre on: 0300 123 4097.

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

30 Hours Email Address:

The 30 Hours email address will be suspended at the end of July.

Any queries or if there is a change of contact in your setting please let us know by emailing: EYC@kent.gov.uk

Early Years Privacy Notice:

We have put together some information we hope will help you have a better understanding of how the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) will impact on settings. Please note this does not constitute legal advice, so any changes to your current processes and forms should be reviewed with your legal team or advisors. Please click [here](#) to view the Early Years Privacy Notice.